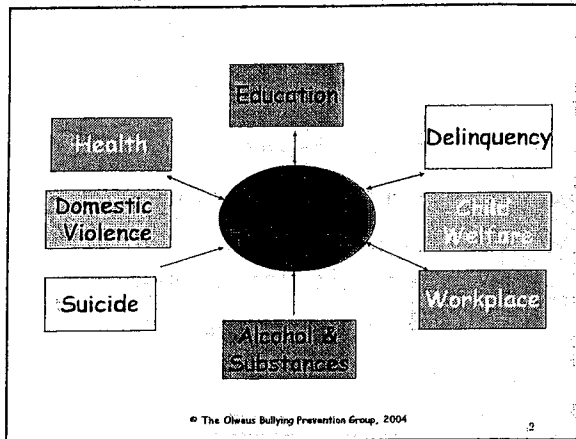


SB 141-20

BULLYING BEHAVIOR... Prevention and Intervention

Alison Harr Schmaltz
Elrod School Counselor
Certified Olweus Bully Prevention Program Trainer
schmaltza@sd5.k12.mt.us

1



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Olweus Definition of Bullying:

"Bullying is when someone repeatedly and on purpose says or does mean or hurtful things to another person who has a hard time defending himself or herself."

Olweus Bullying Prevention
Program, 2010

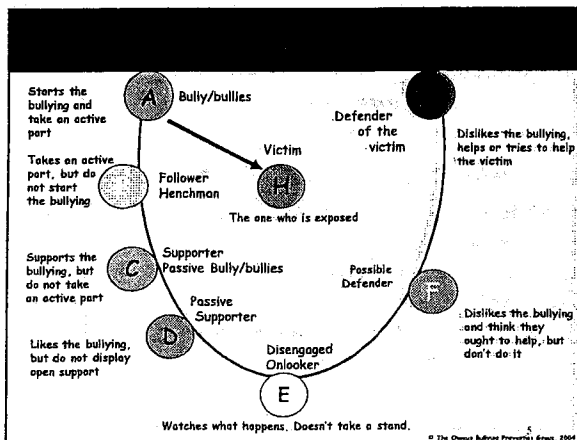
3

Three Key Components of Bullying Behavior

1. Involves an aggressive behavior
2. Typically involves a pattern of behavior repeated over time
3. Imbalance of power or strength

Olweus Bullying Prevention
Program, 2010

4



Bullying Prevention Promotes Positive Behavior. It is:

- A Safe School Climate Issue
- Civil Rights Issue
- A Physical AND Mental Health Issue
- A Drop-out Prevention Issue
- An Academic Achievement Issue
- A Crime Prevention Issue
- A Suicide Prevention Issue

Olweus Bullying
Program, 2010

6

Effects of Being Bullied



- Lower self-esteem
- Depression & anxiety
- Absenteeism & lowered school achievement
- Thoughts of suicide
- Illness

Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, 2010

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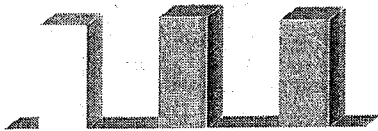
Health Consequences of Bullying (Fekkes et al., 2004)

	<u>Bullied</u>	<u>Not bullied</u>
Headache	16%	6%
Sleep problems	42%	23%
Abdominal pain	17%	9%
Feeling tense	20%	9%
Anxiety	28%	10%
Feeling unhappy	23%	5%
Depression scale		
moderate indication	49%	16%
strong indication	16%	2%

Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, 2010

8

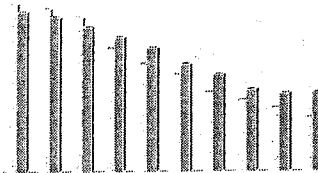
Being Bullied 2-3 x/month or more



Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, 2010

9

Being Bullied: Grade Trends 2-3 times/month or more



Olweus Bullying

10

National Estimates (Finkelhor et al., 2005) *Study of 2,030 children and youth age 2-17*

- 13.7 million children are physically bullied
- 15.7 million children are teased or emotionally bullied
- 2.4 million are sexually harassed

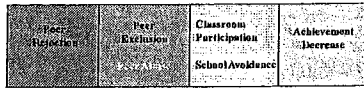
11

Impact of Bullying on School Engagement & Student Academic Achievement

- Bullied children are more likely to:
 - Want to avoid going to school (Kochenderfer & Ladd, 1996)
 - Have higher absenteeism rates (Rigby, 1996; Smith et al, 2004)
 - Say they dislike school; receive lower grades (Eisenberg et al., 2003)

12

Buhs et al. (2006) Study of Peer Exclusion & Victimization and Academic Achievement



Kindergarten

6th Grade

- Early peer rejection in kindergarten is associated with peer exclusion and peer abuse in grades K-5.
- Peer exclusion leads to a decrease in classroom participation, which in turn leads to a decrease in achievement
- Peer abuse leads to an increase in school avoidance (but not directly to decreases in achievement)

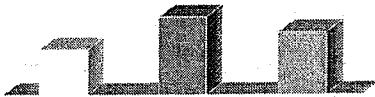
13

Concerns About Children Who Bully

- More likely to:
 - Get into frequent fights
 - Be injured in a fight
 - Steal, vandalize property
 - Drink alcohol, smoke
 - Be truant, drop out of school
 - Report poorer academic achievement
 - Perceive a negative climate at school
 - Carry a weapon

Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, 2010

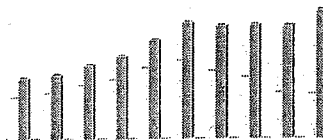
Bullying Others 2-3x/month or more



Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, 2010

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Bullying Others: Grade Trends 2-3 times/month or more



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Longitudinal Study of Children who Bullied Others (Olweus, 1993)

- 60% of boys who were bullies in middle school had at least one conviction by age 24.
- 40% had three or more convictions.
- Bullies were 4 times as likely as peers to have multiple convictions.

17

Safe School Initiative Report (2002)

- U.S. Secret Service and U.S. Dept. of Education
- Studied 37 incidents of targeted school violence, involving 41 attackers (1974-2000)
 - 3/4 of attackers felt persecuted, bullied prior to the incident
 - 1/3 of attackers characterized as "loners"
 - 1/4 socialized with students who were disliked by most mainstream students
 - Many had considered suicide

18

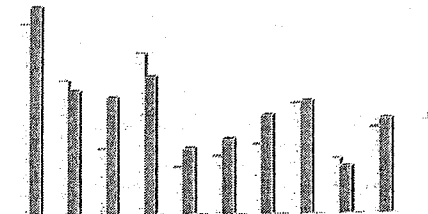
Bullying & School Violence

- Students in grades 7-12 say revenge is the strongest motivation for school shootings- 86% said "other kids picking on them, making fun of them or bullying them" causes teenagers to turn to lethal violence in the schools.²

Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, 2010

19

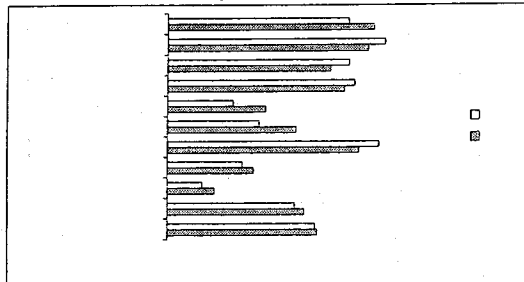
How are Boys & Girls Bullied?



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20

Where the Bullying Has Occurred (if bullied once or more)



21

Effects of Bullying on Bystanders

- Bystanders may feel:
 - Afraid
 - Powerless to change the situation
 - Guilty for not acting
 - Diminished empathy for victims over time



Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, 2010

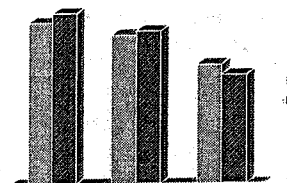
22

Reporting of Bullying to School Staff

- Many do not report being bullied.
- Older children and boys are less likely to report victimization.
- Why don't children report?
 - 2/3 of victims felt that staff responded poorly
 - 6% believed that staff responded very well. (Hoover et al., 1992)

23

Students who say teachers or other adults at school try to stop bullying (often or almost always)



24

Common "Misdirections" in Bullying Prevention and Intervention

- Zero tolerance (student exclusion)
- Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation
- Group treatment for children who bully
- Simple, short-term solutions

25

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What Works?

- What is required to reduce bullying in schools is nothing less than a change in the school climate and in norms for behavior.
- This requires a comprehensive, school-wide effort involving the entire school community

26

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Understanding Adult Bullying Behavior

- Connecting to Illegal Adult Behavior

- Physical bullying = Assault
- Gender bullying = Sexual Harassment or Assault
- Intimidating for Gain = Extortion
- Rumors/ Lies = Defamation of Character
- Harming based on race, religion, sexual orientation = Civil Rights Violation
- Harming Disabled Persons = Disability Harassment
- Cyber Bullying = Harassment by Communication
- Sexting (images) = Child Pornography

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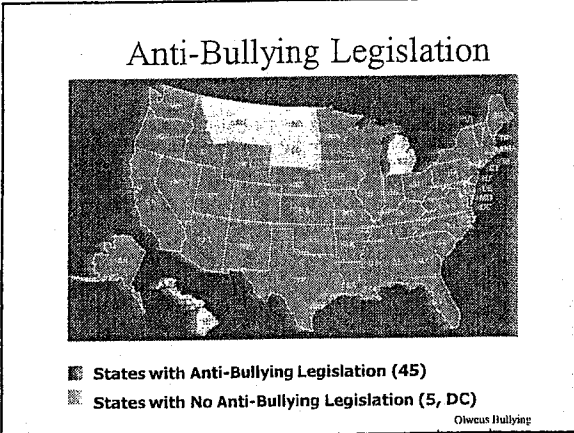
Anti-Bullying Legislation

The map shows the United States with state boundaries. Most states are shaded in a dark gray, indicating they have anti-bullying legislation. Five states and the District of Columbia are left unshaded, indicating they do not have such legislation. These are labeled as AL, MS, LA, HI, and DC. The map is titled 'Anti-Bullying Legislation' at the top.

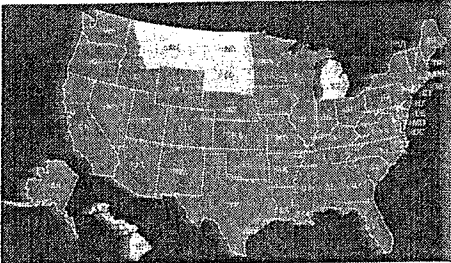
States with Anti-Bullying Legislation (45)

States with No Anti-Bullying Legislation (5, DC)

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Anti-Bullying Legislation



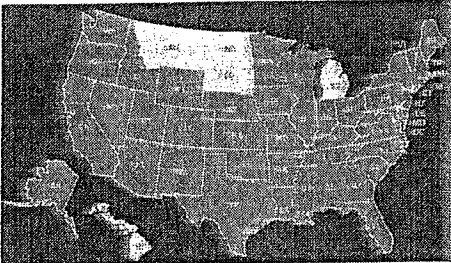
A map of the United States where states are shaded in two colors to represent the presence of anti-bullying legislation. Lighter shaded states include Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, Idaho, Wyoming, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland. Darker shaded states include Washington, Oregon, California, Oregon, California, Nevada, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, and Hawaii.

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Olweus Bullying

Resources

- Websites
 - www.clemson.edu/olweus
 - www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov
 - www.stopbullyingworld.com
 - www.olweus.org

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